



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/875,798	06/05/2001	Ashvinkumar J. Sanghvi	MSI-693US	5525
22801	7590	04/14/2004	EXAMINER	
LEE & HAYES PLLC 421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500 SPOKANE, WA 99201			SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2154	10

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/875,798

Applicant(s)

SANGHVI ET AL.

Examiner

Mohammad A Siddiqi

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/04/04.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Natarajan et al. (6584502) (hereinafter Natarajan).

3. As per claims 1 and 18, Natarajan discloses a method comprising:  
assigning (figure 2, element 260, 202) a plurality of devices to a group (figure 5C, element 254, col 4, lines 49-54);  
assigning (figure 2, element 260, 202) at least one event-handling policy (figure 2 element 254) to the group (figure 5C, element 254, col 14, lines 51-52), wherein the assigned policy is associated with each of the plurality of devices in the group (figure 2, element 254, col 14, lines 33-50);  
and

evaluating a current state of each device (figure 17, element 1718) before the assigned policy (figure 17, element 1728) is applied to the device (figure 17, col 31, lines 35-67).

4. As per claim 2, Natarajan discloses evaluating a current state of each device determines whether each device is currently a member of the group (col 14, lines 33-50, it is implied in the tree structure children have only one parent).

5. As per claim 3, Natarajan discloses evaluating a current state of each device (figure 17, element 1718) includes:

determining whether a particular device is currently a member of the group (figure 5C, element 254, col 14, lines 5-20); and

applying the assigned policy to the particular device if the particular device is currently a member of the group (col 14, lines 33-35).

6. As per claims 4 and 12, Natarajan discloses each device is assigned at least one additional policy that is not assigned to the group (col 14, lines 51-56).

7. As per claims 5 and 19, Natarajan discloses a particular device is

assigned to multiple groups (col 14, lines 33-50).

8. As per claims 6 and 13, Natarajan discloses the event-handling (figure 2, element 254) policy defines how the device is configured (col 8, lines 27-38).

9. As per claims 7, 14 and 20, Natarajan discloses the event-handling (figure 2, element 254) policy identifies the types of events that are provided to each device (col 10, lines 40-50).

10. As per claim 8, Natarajan discloses the method is implemented by a management module (col 19, lines 1-15).

11. As per claim 9, Natarajan discloses One or more computer-readable memories (figure 5A, element 63, 65, col 12, lines 46-51) containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform (col 12, lines 46-59).

12. As per claim 10, Natarajan discloses an apparatus comprising:  
a group of devices having an associated event-handling policy (figure 5C, element 254);

an event log configured to store event data (figure 2, element 252, col 13, lines 56-57); and

a management module coupled to the group of devices and the event log (figure 2, element 260,262,252, col 19, lines 1-16), wherein a current state of each device in the group of devices is evaluated by the management module before the event-handling policy is applied to the device (figure 6 and 7, col 19, 1-16, col 14, lines 34-50).

13. As per claim 11, Natarajan discloses a plurality of groups of devices are coupled to the management module (figure 2, element 254,260, col 19, lines 1-19).

14. As per claim 15, Natarajan discloses the apparatus is part of an enterprise computing system (figure 2, see abstract).

15. As per claim 16, Natarajan discloses the management module receives event data generated by a plurality of event providers (figure 2, element 260, 262, 254, 270, col 19, lines 1-19).

16. As per claim 17, Natarajan discloses the management module determines whether a particular device is currently a member of the group

before the event-handling policy is applied to the device (col 19, lines 1 –47, it is implied during the registration process).

***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 02/04/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive:

In response to applicant's argument "assigning a plurality of devices", the examiner respectfully disagrees. The Natarajan prior art assigning (fig 2, element 260 and 202, col 28, lines 25-67 and col29, lines 1-35, ADMIN and USER both can modify or change the polices, changing includes assigning) a plurality of devices (fig 5c element 254, col 4, lines 49-54, col 19, lines 5-8 and col 14, lines 33-50, modular term is used to group the polices), evaluating a current state of each device before the assigned policy is applies to the device (fig 17, col 31, lines 35-67 and col 32, lines 1-46 and col 21, line 20, packets dropped from the link is change in a state, fig 17 shows evaluating, re-evaluating , notifying and dynamically modifying the policy). Therefore, limitations are met by the reference. Claim 1 stands rejected.

In response to applicant's argument "group of devices having associated event-handling policy", the examiner respectfully disagrees. The

Natarajan prior art (fig 5c element 254, col 4, lines 49-54, col 19, lines 5-8 and col 14, lines 33-50, modular term is used to group the polices), data store is configured to store events (col 8, lines 52-67 and col 13, lines 12-20, network operation includes events). Therefore, limitations are met by the reference. Claim 10 stands rejected.

### ***Conclusion***

2. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

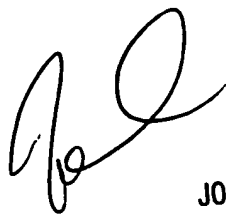


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A Siddiqi whose telephone number is (703) 305-0353. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MAS



JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100